

Westminster Police Department

PRESS RELEASE

Ron Coopman, *Chief of Police*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VEHICLE VS PEDESTRIAN FATAL HIT AND RUN TRAFFIC COLLISION

Date: November 12, 2012 at 2351 hrs
Victim: TBA –pending notification of next of kin
Charges: Manslaughter and Felony Hit and Run
Location: Beach Boulevard south of 23rd Street, Westminster CA

Westminster, CA: On 11-12-2012, at approximately 2351 hrs., several citizens called the Westminster Police Department to report a male adult laying on Beach Bl in traffic. When officers and Orange County Fire Authority paramedics arrived they located the victim, lying in traffic lanes, deceased. His body sustained injuries consistent with having been struck by at least one vehicle. Officers located debris from a vehicle around the victim's body. The driver of the vehicle failed to stop and fled the scene without rendering aid to the victim. Sgt Richard Mize said "Those drivers who are involved in traffic collisions have an obligation to stop and remain at the scene. You don't just leave someone laying in the street and drive away."

WPD Traffic investigators along with members of the Forensic Science Unit are currently at the scene conducting their investigation. Investigators are following up on information that the vehicle was a grey passenger vehicle, possibly a Toyota with front windshield damage. The suspect driver once identified will face a criminal complaint related to this incident.

All lanes of Beach Bl were closed from 23rd St south to 19th St due to the investigation. A sigalert was issued for this area and motorists are urged to use alternate routes until further notice. The victim has been identified but his name will not be released pending notification of next of kin.

Anyone who may have information related to this incident are asked to contact the Westminster Police Department Traffic Division at (714) 898-3315.

Authored by: Sergeant Richard Mize

<http://www.westminster-ca.gov/depts/police/>